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space or more space for methods of local property assessment, actual county and city utilization of the merit system, the activities of parties in local affairs, and the administration of civil and criminal justice. But all books must have an end somewhere.

In view of the many details presented and the frequent recent changes in local Government organization, the volume seems remarkably free from erroneous statements.

Ralph S. Boots.

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PROBLEM OF GOVERNMENT. By Westel W. Willoughby, Professor of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, and Lindsay Rogers, Associate Professor of Government, Columbia University. Doubleday, Page and Company, Garden City, N. Y., 1921, pp. x, 545.

The well-known authors of this excellent book have selected a few outstanding problems in government, such as its sphere, its relation to political parties, the means of making it representative in character, the relation of the executive and legislative branches and the peculiar functions, of each, the need of proportional representation, budgetary procedure and the peculiar questions arising from federal government. Each of these problems is discussed in the light of the experience of the United States and other leading nations.

The task is not an easy one. The authors met with the same difficulty which faces all comparative studies—the selection, digestion and interesting presentation of essential points in widely varying systems. But the work has been well performed, is sound, scholarly and thorough. A few examples will show the practical importance of the problems discussed. In chapters 10, 11, 12 and 13 on the making and execution of the laws, the vital need of leadership is set forth. The authors show that the legislature's true functions are publicity, criticism, and the approval or rejection of policies. The necessary emergence of the executive as leader is implied. The growing policy of passing outlined law, for which the details are to be supplied by the administrator, is commended. The authors do not hesitate to favor European practices where these have borne fruit. Again in the chapter on the judicial function, the advantages and disadvantages of judicial nullification of legislative acts are considered.

It might be wished that the book had included the new governments of the German states in the discussion. Where comparisons are made with Germany the monarchical form is usually described. The volume possesses, among many virtues, one which the lawyer and the advanced student will especially appreciate, it deals in general principles but always gives particular applications. Its style is clear, its references are profuse and well chosen, covering a wide range of authors. The method of expression is temperate and well balanced. It will be found admirably adapted to the

needs of an advanced college class in government and will commend itself to the reader who enjoys a well proportioned use of inductive and deductive reasoning on political subjects.

James Thomas Young.

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HISPANICAE ADVOCATIONIS LIBRI DUO. (The Pleas of a Spanish Advocate.) By Alberico Gentili. Volume I being the photographic reproduction of the edition of 1661, and Volume II being the translation of the edition of 1661 by Frank Frost Abbott, Professor of Latin in Princeton University. No. 9 of The Classics of International Law. Published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Oxford University Press, New York City, 1921, pp. 274, X. 284.

Alberico Gentili was born in Spain in 1552, and having attained eminence as an international scholar, was appointed representative of the Spanish interests in the English Court of Admiralty during the years 1605 to 1608, while Spain was at war with the Dutch, and England was neutral.

This book was published by his brother five years after his death, and is divided into two parts, the first relating to the cases in International Law with which he was concerned while acting as representative of the Spanish Court, and the second relating to private law.

The reproduction is in the well-known workmanship of the Carnegie Endowment and is a most valuable aid to the student of International Law. Of the contents much may be written, too much for this review. We can only point out that the learned reader will be amply repaid by dipping into the pages of this almost medieval treatise. He will read about pirates, Turks, and Barbary corsairs; of the change of title to property by capture *juri belli*; of the immunity conferred by neutral territory; of the title to property acquired by purchase from pirates, and so forth, each case bringing, even to an ordinary imagination, a faint glimpse of the days of James I. of England, Philip III. of Spain, and Henry of Navarre.

The second book contains topics which have a more modern interest; the depositions of absent witnesses, *res adjudicata*, appeal from an interlocutory decree, and two curious discussions, which have a scholastic flavor, of the proof of a storm, and the proof of ignorance and knowledge.

With this cursory glance at the interesting contents we will leave the book to the learned reader in the confidence that he will not regret the time spent in reading it.

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